AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please replace the claims, including all prior versions, with the listing of claims found below.

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-14 (Previously cancelled)

Claim 15 (Currently amended) A method for speech recognition, comprising:

performing a preliminary speech recognition of a voice signal to segment the voice signal into words and pauses and converting the words into text;

determining an average silence volume during the pauses;

determining an average word volume for the words;

calculating a difference between the average word volume and the average silence volume; ~~and~~

evaluating a word, having a volume difference between the average word volume and the average silence volume is lower than a predetermined threshold, as having been incorrectly recognized; and

preparing an n-best list and allocating to each word of the n-best list a difference between the average word volume of individual spoken words and the average silence volume, and determining the word to be inserted into the text from the n-best list according to a criterion of the difference between the average volume of the individual spoken words and the average silence volume.

Claim 16 (Previously presented) The method according to claim 15, further comprising measuring the average silence volume and the average word volume as a logarithm via an acquired energy.

Claim 17 (Previously presented) The method according to claim 16, further comprising calculating the global difference between the average word volume of a plurality of segmented

words and the average silence volume of a plurality of segmented pauses, and defining a threshold on the basis of the global difference.

Claim 18 (Previously presented) The method according to claim 17, further comprising equating the threshold with the global difference.

Claim 19 (Previously presented) The method according to claim 17, further comprising diminishing the global difference by a constant predetermined amount and deriving therefrom a volume amount as the threshold.

Claim 20 (Previously presented) The method according to claim 16 further comprising employing a constant threshold.

Claim 21 (Previously presented) The method according to claim 20, wherein a word for which no speech recognition is implemented is not taken into further consideration.

Claim 22 (Previously presented) The method according to claim 21, wherein a message is output to a user when no speech recognition is implemented.

Claim 23 (Previously presented) The method according to claim 22, further comprising prompting a user with a message to speak louder and/or to repeat an unrecognized word.

Claim 24 (Previously presented) The method according to claim 23, further comprising prompting a user with a message to speak louder so that an adequate distance is achieved between the average word volume and the average silence volume.

Claim 25 (Previously presented) The method according to claim 24, further comprising determining the average silence volume for an individual pause and determining the difference

between the average word volume and the average silence volume of an immediately preceding pause or an immediately following pause.

Claim 26 (Previously presented) The method according to claim 25, further comprising averaging the average silence volume over a plurality of successive pauses and employing the average in the determination of the difference between the average word volume and the average silence volume.

Claim 27 (Canceled)

Claim 28 (Currently amended) A system for speech recognition, comprising:

a processor unit configured to perform a preliminary speech recognition of a voice signal to segment words and pauses in speech based on word boundaries and converting the words into text, determine an average silence volume during the pauses, determine an average word volume for the words, and calculate a difference between the average word volume and the average silence volume,

whereby speech is recognized when the difference between the average word volume and the average silence volume is greater than a predetermined threshold, and

an n-best list is prepared and each word of the n-best list is allocated a difference between the average word volume of individual spoken words and the average silence volume, and the word to be inserted into the text from the n-best list is determined according to a criterion of the difference between the average volume of the individual spoken words and the average silence volume.